



Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid May 2, 2024

Issued By: NWS Austin/San Antonio

Contact Information: sr-ewx.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated June 6, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/ewx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Overall, drought conditions worsen in the west while some improvement was seen across the east over the past 30 days
 - Reservoir levels in the Hill County and along the Rio Grande remain very low
 - Monthly outlooks show hot temperatures, but give little guidance on precipitation chances



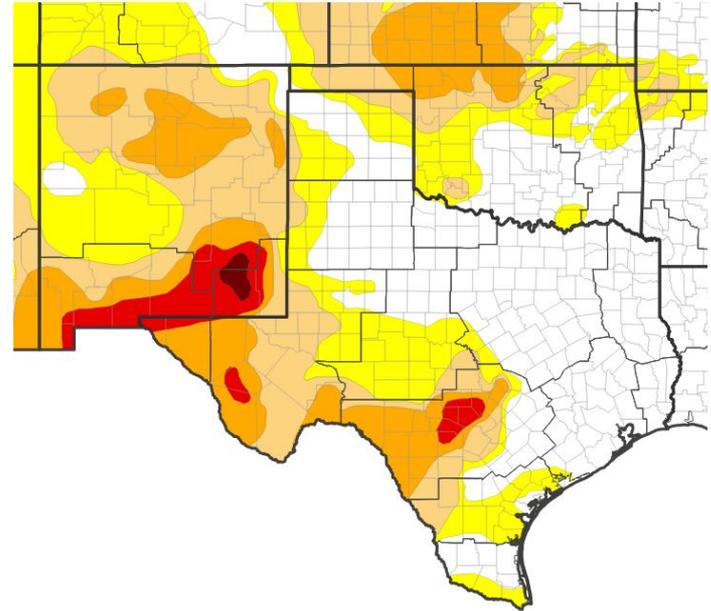


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for south central Texas

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Covers portions of the Hill Country and I-35 corridor
 - Percent of Area: 7.77%
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Extends across the portions of the Hill Country, Rio Grande Plains, and I-35 corridor
 - Percent of Area: 38.25%
 - **No Drought or D0 (Abnormally Dry):** Extends across the portions of Rio Grande Plains, and Coastal Plains
 - Percent of Area: 29.97%

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/30/24

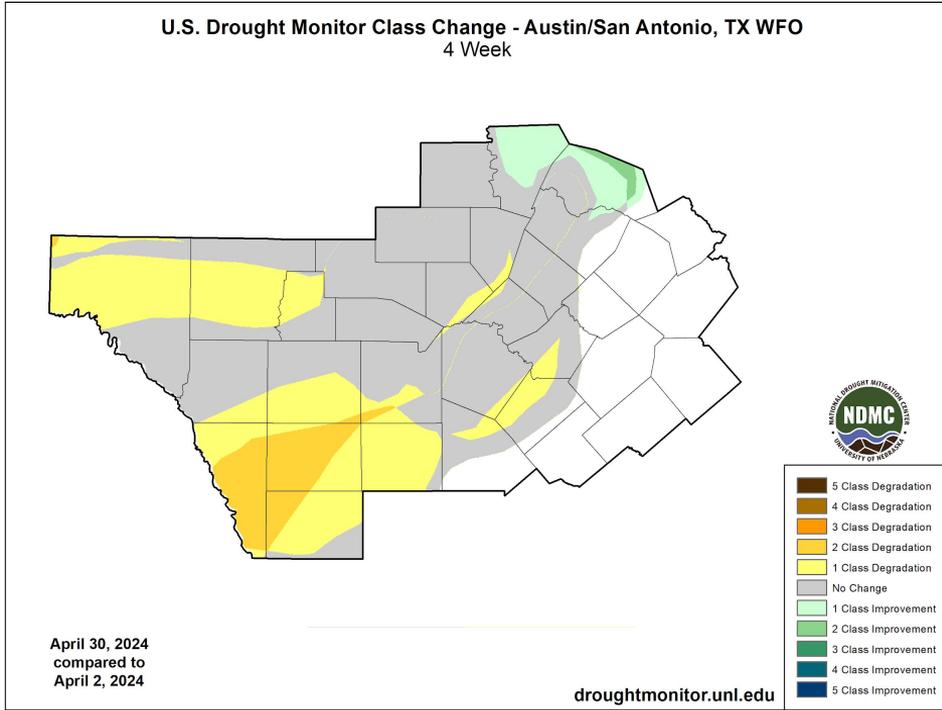




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for south central Texas

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Portions of the southern Edwards Plateau, Rio Grande Plains, and localised areas in the Hill Country and Coastal Plains
 - No Change: Portions of the southern Edwards Plateau, I-35 Corridor, Rio Grande Plains, and Hill Country
 - Drought Improved: Small portions of the I-35 corridor, and Hill Country



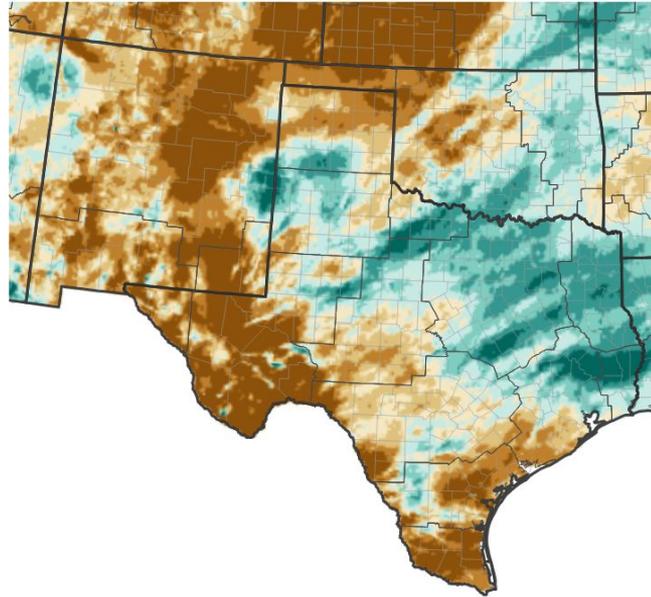


Precipitation

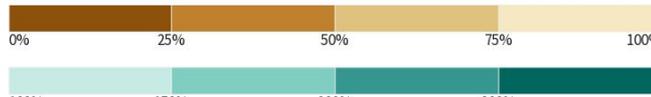
Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 30 days

- Less than normal rainfall was seen over the vast majority of south central Texas over the past 30 days
- Isolated spots in the southern Coastal Plains, I-35 corridor, and Hill Country saw above normal rainfall for the past 30 days
- Adjacent counties of the Rio Grande River less than 25 percent of normal

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal

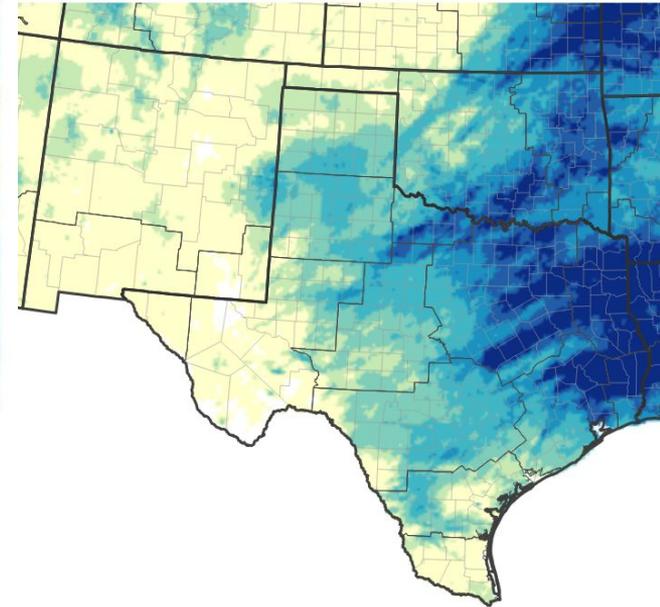


Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 05/01/24

WPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 05/01/24





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Portions of the lower Colorado, San Antonio, and Blanco basins have normal flows ([USGS](#))
- The remainder of river basins across the service area fall into either below or much below normal range ([USGS](#))
- Medina Lake is now at 2.8 percent capacity, and Canyon Lake has returned to record low elevations ([Texas Water Development Board](#))
- See next page for more details

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop & Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M Agrilife
- Soil moistures are near normal across the eastern half of the service area while the western half is experiencing below normal soil moisture ([NWS Climate Prediction Center](#))

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of May ([National Interagency Coordination Center](#))
- See Fire Hazard page for more details

Drought Mitigation Actions

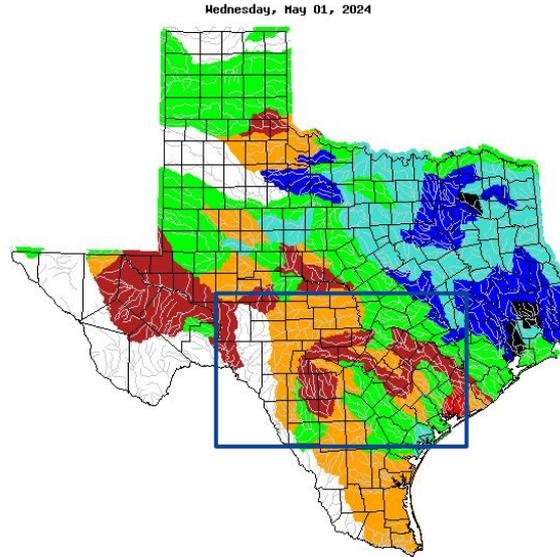
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.
- Select [Municipality Restrictions](#) (as of 5/2/2024)
 - City of Uvalde: Stage 5
 - City of Fredericksburg: Stage 4
 - City of Kerrville: Stage 2
 - City of Georgetown: Stage 2
 - City of San Antonio: Stage 2
 - City of Universal City: Stage 2
 - City of New Braunfels: Stage 2
 - City of Austin: Stage 2
 - City of Del Rio: Stage 2
 - City of Llano: Stage 2





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Portions of the lower Colorado, San Antonio, and Blanco basins have normal flows
- The remainder of river basins across the service area fall into either below or much below normal range
- Medina Lake is now at 2.8 percent capacity, and Canyon Lake has returned to record low elevations



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	No Data

Figure Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas](#), valid May 2, 2024

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	Percent Full
Amistad	1117.00 feet	1050.74 feet	27.9%
Medina Lake	1064.2 feet	972.55 feet	2.8%
Canyon Lake	909.00 feet	886.58 feet	58.7%
Granger Lake	504.00 feet	506.57 feet	100%
Georgetown Lake	791.00 feet	785.03 feet	80.7%
Lake Buchanan	1020.00 feet	995.46 feet	49.7%
Lake LBJ	825.00 feet	824.71 feet	98.3%
Lake Marble Falls	738.00 feet	736.34 feet	94.7%
Lake Travis	681.00 feet	630.29 feet	37.1%
Lake Austin	492.9 feet	492.09 feet	95.4%

Table caption: [TWDB Reservoir](#) conditions as of May 1, 2024

Additional data:

[Edwards Aquifer, Bexar Index Well J-17](#) as of

May 1, 2024:

10 day average: 638.6

Historical Monthly Average: 665.3

Departure from Average: -26.0



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Austin/San Antonio, TX

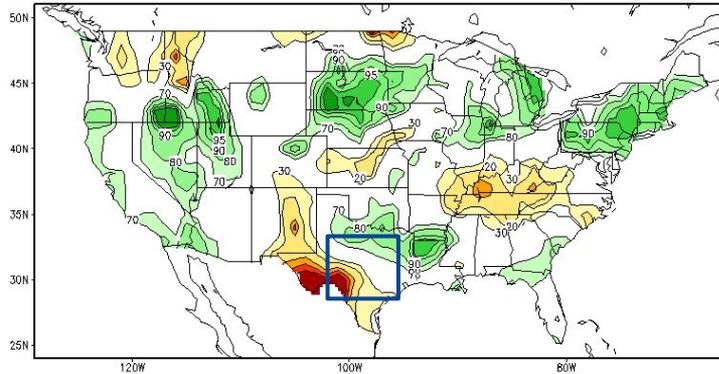


Agricultural Impacts

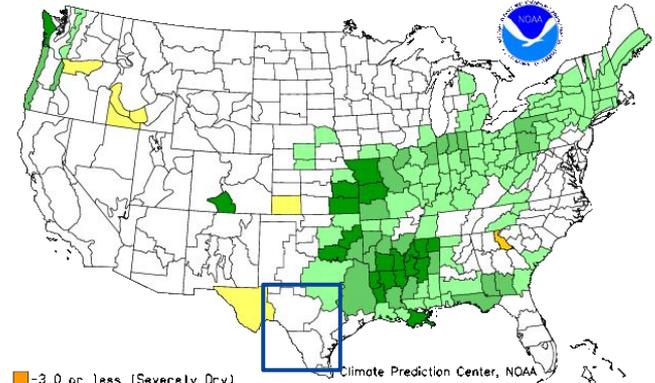
Links to the latest [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) and [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#).

- Soil moistures are near normal across the eastern half of the service area while the western half is experiencing below normal soil moisture
- Crop moisture index values are near normal across all three climate zones across the service area

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
MAY 01, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending APR 27, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile





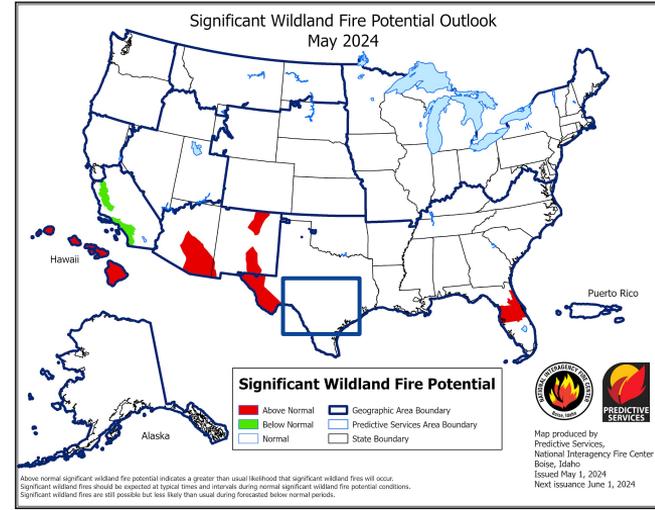
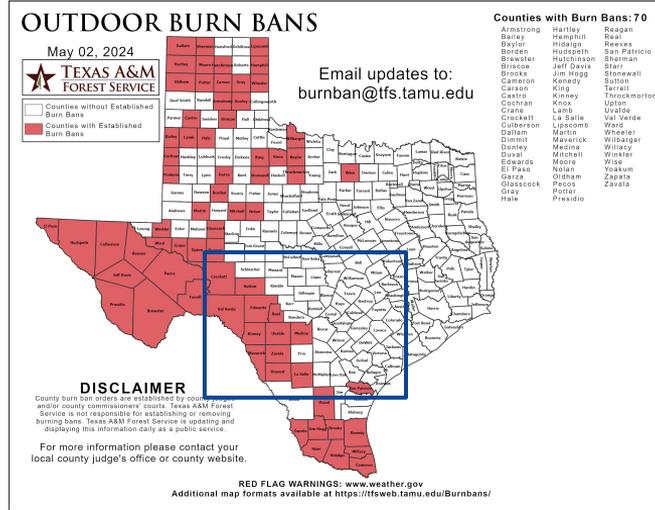
Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values](#) have dropped below 200 across much of the Hill Country, I-35 corridor, and Coastal Plains

- Values range between 300 and 600 across the Rio Grande Plains, southern Edwards Plateau, and portions of the Hill Country

- Normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of May



Burn bans remain for 9 of our 33 counties as of May 2, 2024. Latest County Burn Ban map available [here](#).



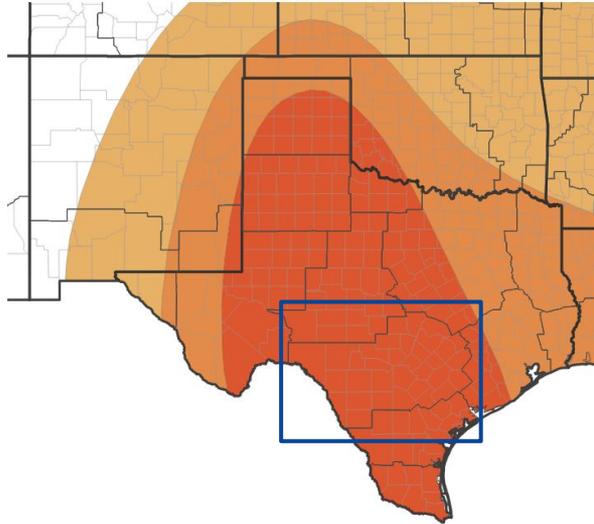


Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The temperature outlook for the month of May favors above normal temperatures
- The precipitation outlook shows equal chances for above, below, or near normal chances for the month of May
 - The only exception is a slight lean towards above normal precipitation chances across a small portion of the Hill Country and I-35 Corridor

Monthly Temperature Outlook



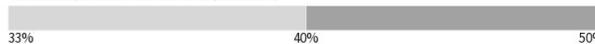
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



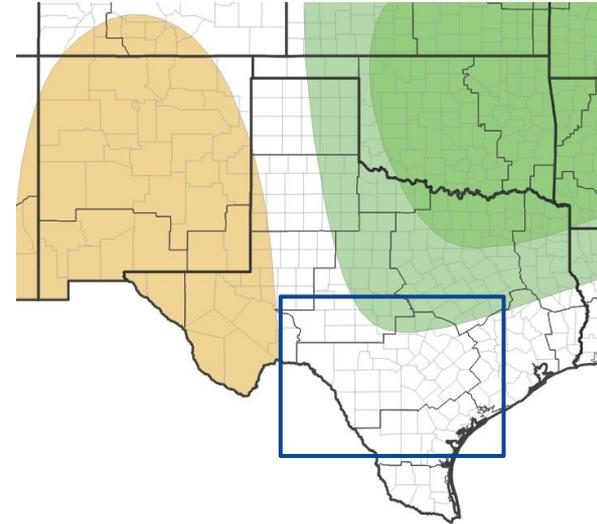
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



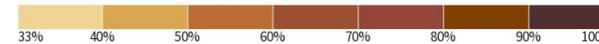
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/30/24

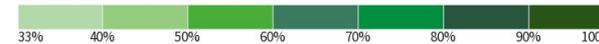
Monthly Precipitation Outlook



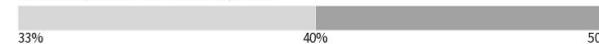
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/30/24



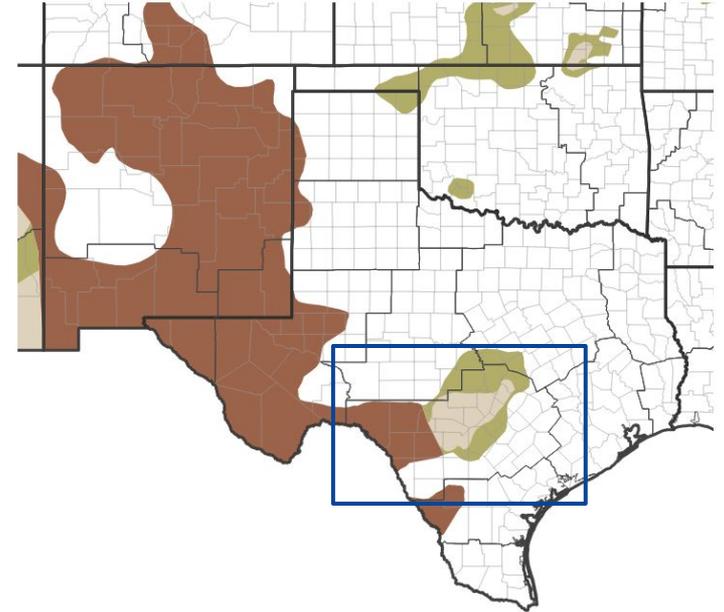


Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The Drought Outlook shows potential for drought conditions to improve or end for portions of the Hill Country, and I-35 Corridor
- Drought conditions are forecast to persist across portions of the southern Edwards Plateau and Rio Grande Plains

1-Month Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 05/02/24

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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